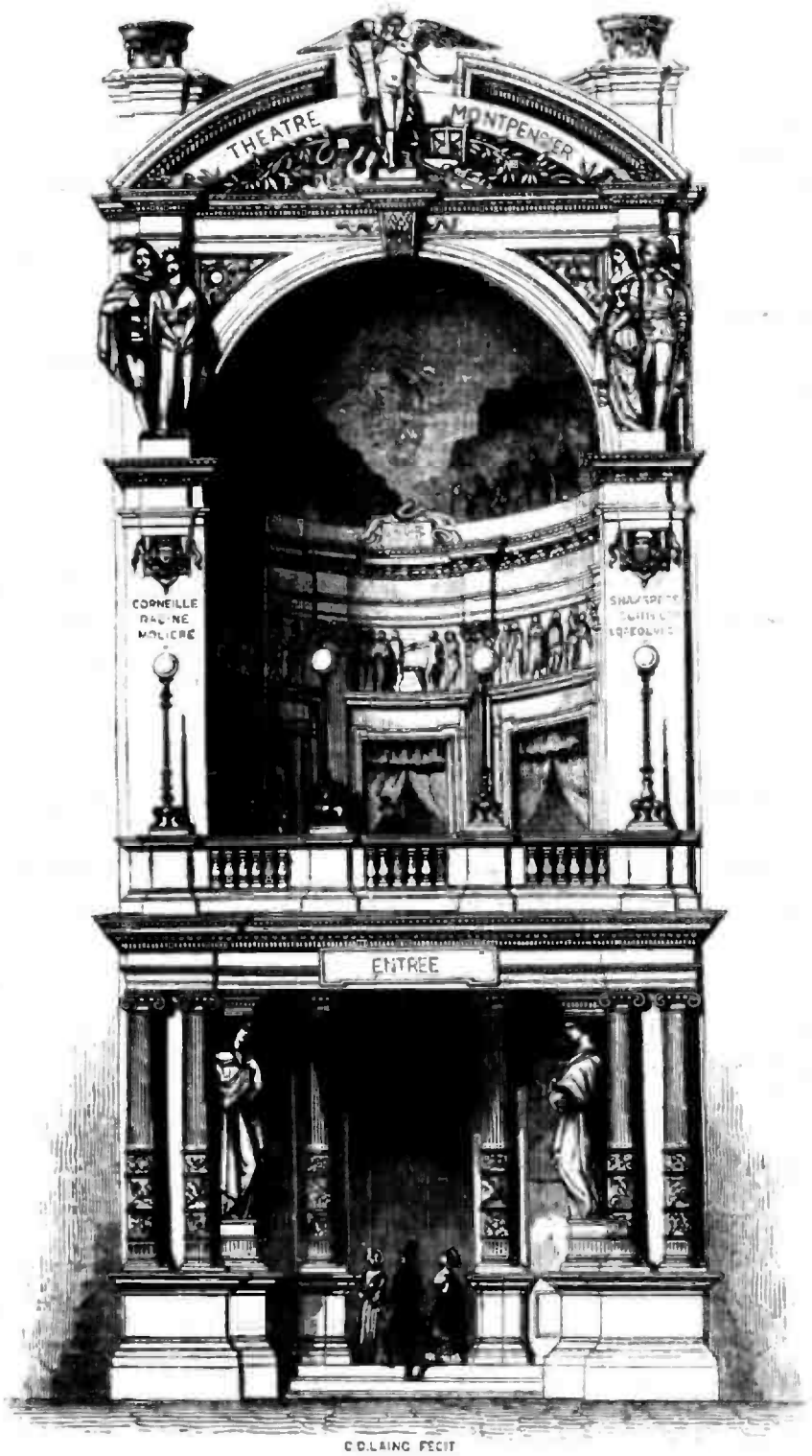
ENTRANCE FRONT OF THE "THEATRE MONTPENSIER," PARIS.*



MR. EASTLAKE AND THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

The minutes of the trustees of the National Gallery, moved for by Mr. Hume, and printed by order of the House of Commons, afford a triumphant reply to Mr. Eastlake's accusers, or rather abusers. Mr. Mulready, Mr. Etty, Mr. Uwins, Mr. Edwin Landseer, Mr. Stanfield, and others, bear willing witness to the judicious manner in which the pictures (spoken of as ruined) have been cleaned, and the absence of any foundation for the charges brought against Mr. Eastlake.

The minutes point out another circumstance requiring immediate remedy, which is, that many pictures are annually lost to the nation through want of a place to put them into. The list of gifts declined is a long one, and has led to the following resolution on the part of the trustees :—

"That considering the limited space which it is possible to appropriate to the exhibition of new pictures or works of art that may be presented to, or acquired by, the directors of the Royal National Gallery, it is desirable to stipulate, in the case of pictures or sculpture gratuitously offered to the directors, that the directors shall be at liberty to appropriate them, if they shall think fit, to the use of public museums that may be now or hereafter established in different parts of the United Kingdom."

This, however, will not remove the necessity which exists for enlarging the National Gallery, as urged by us long ago.

* See page 81 in present number.

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